

occasional assumption of *niaiserie*, or almost infantine simplicity ; but this only threw people the more off their guard, and made her finesse the more sure in its operation. Pauline was handsome too, uncommonly graceful, and had all that power of fascination which has been attributed to the Bonaparte family. She could gain hearts with ease, and those whom her charms enslaved were generally ready to devote themselves absolutely to her brother. She went and came between Naples and Elba, and kept her brother-in-law, Murat, in mind of the fact that the lion was not yet dead nor so much as sleeping, but merely retiring the better to spring forward on his quarry.

Having taken this resolution and chosen his time, Napoleon kept the secret of his expedition until the last moment; and means were found to privately make the requisite preparations. A portion of the soldiers was embarked in a brig called the *Inconstant* and the remainder in six small craft. It was not till they were all on board that the troops first conceived a suspicion of the Emperor's purpose : 1000 or 1200 men had sailed to regain possession of an Empire containing a population of 30,000,000 ! He commenced his voyage on Sunday the 26th of February, 1815, and the next morning at ten o'clock was not out of sight of the island, to the great annoyance of the few friends he had left behind. At this time Colonel Sir Neil Campbell was absent on a tour to Leghorn, but being informed by the French Consul and by Spanocchi, the Tuscan Governor of the town, that Napoleon was about to sail for the Continent, he hastened back, and gave chase to the little squadron in the *Partridge* sloop of war, which was cruising in the neighborhood, but, being delayed by communicating with a French frigate, reached Antibes too late.<sup>1</sup>

There were between 400 and 500 men on board the brig

<sup>1</sup> The conduct of Sir Neil Campbell was severely censured at the time in various quarters. The following defence of it was put forward by his friends, and published in a London newspaper. Campbell was a gallant officer, and it is but justice to him to reprint that statement here.

From this period until the assembling of the Congress at Vienna Bonaparte evinced the greatest predilection for the constant personal presence and society of Sir Neil Campbell; but the discussion of the Allied powers touching his future situation, and the arrangements of the Italian States seemed to awaken his slumbering passions and

create rancor in his mind; lie evidently alienated himself  
from the habits he had before cultivated with the